

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the title to more accurately reflect the claimed invention.

Claims 52, 56 and 60 have been amended to include the limitation that the encoded protein must bind IgE from a patient allergic to *Dermatophagoides farinae*. Support for such activity can be found in the specification, for example, on page 9, lines 9-16, page 95, lines 11-13 and page 98, lines 12-14.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph – enablement

The Examiner has rejected the pending claims for lack of enablement stating the scope of the claims include proteins that potentially have unrelated functions and only have the ability to bind an antibody originally made to SEQ ID NO:15. As suggested by the Examiner, during the telephonic interview of May 23, 2005, Applicants have amended the base claims to include the functional limitation that the encoded proteins specifically bind IgE antibodies from an animal with an allergy to *Dermatophagoides farinae*. Applicants contend this new functional limitation, coupled with the structural limitation specifying the encoded protein must be a mapB protein, limits the claims so they encompasses only those proteins which are closely related and which share a specific, well-defined function.

II. Description of the term, mapB protein

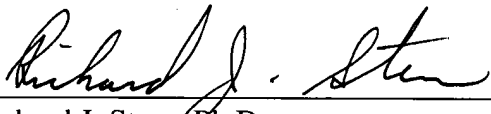
During the course of the telephonic interview, the Examiner requested Applicants direct the Examiner as to where in the specification the breadth of the term “mapB protein” is disclosed. Applicants direct the Examiner’s attention to the specification, for example, page 89, lines 9-23, through page 91, lines 1-21, which describes a mapB protein as the 98 kDa protein isolated by the process described within the cited section. Additionally, Example 11, and in particular, for example, page 113, lines 22-23, through page 115, lines 1-8, describes the sequencing of the 98 kDa mapB protein. Applicants submit that these sections of the specification adequately describe the breadth of the term “mapB protein”.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants solicit an allowance of all pending claims as amended herein. If any questions remain regarding this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (970) 493-7272 ext. 4174.

Respectfully submitted,

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